

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A single flow control element is pivotally mounted in a housing and arranged to be selectively rotated from a first flow directing position, wherein the gas flow is by-passed and prevented from entering a gas treatment device, to a second flow directing position wherein the gas is directed through the gas treatment device. In the first and second flow directing positions, the edges of the flow directing element respectively cooperate with first and second sets of seal seats to defined interfaces into which air under pressure is introduced. This air is pressurized to a level whereat air curtains are formed to prevent leakage of gas past the flow control element and enable a man-safe zone to be established in the housing while the flow control element is in the position in which the by-pass flow path is established. The flow control element has a dual wall (bi-plane) construction having a pair of spaced walls which are offset with respect to one another so as to provide an essentially trapezoidal cross section.